## NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

GEOTECHNICAL UNIT

## SUBSURFACE INVESTIGATION

	SOIL AND ROCK L	EGEND, TERMS, SYMBOLS,	AND ABBREVIATIONS	
SOIL DESCRIPTION	GRADATION		ROCK DESCRIPTION	TERMS AND DEFINITIONS
SOIL IS CONSIDERED TO BE THE UNCONSOLIDATED, SEMI-CONSOLIDATED OR WEATHERED EARTH MATERIALS WHICH CAN BE PENETRATED WITH A CONTINUOUS FLIGHT POWER AUGER, AND WHICH YIELDS LESS THAN 198 BLOWS PER FOOT ACCORDING TO STANDARD PENETRATION TEST MASSIVED T296, ASTM D-1585L SOIL CLASSIFICATION IS BASED ON THE AASHTO SYSTEM AND BASIC DESCRIPTIONS GENERALLY SHALL DICLUDE: CONSISTENCY, COLOR, TEXTURE, MOISTURE, AASHTO CLASSIFICATION, AND OTHER PERTIMENT FACTORS SUCH AS MINERALOGICAL COMPOSITION, ANDLIARITY, STRUCTURE, PLASTICITY, ETC. EXAMPLE:	MELL GRADED: INDICATES A GOOD REPRESENTATION OF PARTICLE SIZES FROM FINE T  INIFERM: NOICATES THAT SOIL PARTICLES ARE ALL APPROXIMATELY THE SAME SIZE  POORLY GRADED INDICATES A MIXTURE OF UNIFORM PARTICLES OF TWO OR MORE SIZES,  ANGULARITY OF GRAINS  THE ANGULARITY OR ROUNDNESS OF SOIL GRAINS ARE DESIGNATED BY THE TERMS; AN	E. (ALSO ROCK LINE INDICATI SPT REFUSAL IS PE IN MON-COASTAL PL OF WEATHERED ROCK	Coastal Plain Material That when tested, would yield spt refusal, an inferred es the Level at which non-coastal Plain Material would yield spt refusal. Enetration by a split spoon sampler equal to or less than 8,1 foot per 80 blows, ain Material. The transition between soil and rock is often represented by a ZOA K. Typically Divided as follows:	ALLUYIUM (ALLUV) - SOILS WHICH HAVE BEEN TRANSPORTED BY WATER.  ACUIFER - A WATER BEARING FORMATION OR STRATA.  ARENACEOUS - APPLIED TO ROCKS THAT HAVE BEEN DERIVED FROM SAND OR THAT CONTAIN SAND,  ARGILLACEDUS - APPLIED TO ALL ROCKS OR SUBSTANCES COMPOSED OF CLAY MINERALS,
YER' STEFF, GRAY SUTY CLAY, BOST WITH INTERBEDUED FINE SAID LAYERS, HIGHLY PLASTIC, A-7-6	SUBANGULAR, SUBROUNDED, OR ROUNDED.	WEATHERED ROCK (WR)	NON-COASTAL PLAIN MATERIAL THAT YIELDS SPT N VALUES > 188 BLOWS PER FOOT.	OR MAYING A NOTABLE PROPORTION OF CLAY IN THEIR COMPOSITION, AS SHALE, SLATE, ETC.  ARTESIAN - GROUND WATER THAT IS UNDER SUFFICIENT PRESSURE TO RISE ABOVE THE LEVEL
SOIL LEGEND AND AASHTO CLASSIFICATION  GENERAL GRANULAR MATERIALS SILT-CLAY MATERIALS CLASS, 1.35% PASSING "2000 1:95% PASSING "2000 DRGANIC MATERIALS	MINERAL OGICAL COMPOSITION  MINERAL NAMES SUCH AS QUARTZ, FELDSPAR, MICA, TALC, KAQLIN, ETC, ARE USED IN DE WHENEVER THEY ARE CONSIDERED OF SIGNIFICANCE.	ESCRIPTIONS CRYSTALLINE ROCK (CR)	FINE TO COARSE GRAIN IGNEOUS AND METAMORPHIC ROCK THAT WOULD YIELD SPT REFUSAL IF TESTED. ROCK TYPE INCLUDES GRANITE, GNEISS, GABBRO, SCHIST, ETC.	AT WHICH IS IS ENCOUNTERED, BUT WHICH DOES NOT NECESSARILY RISE TO OR ABOVE THE GROUND SURFACE.  CALCAREOUS (CALC.) - SOILS WHICH CONTAIN APPRECIABLE AMOUNTS OF CALCIUM CARBONATE.
GROUP A-1 A-3 A-2 A-4 A-5 A-6 A-7 A-1, A-2 A-4, A-5 CLASS. A-1-a A-1-b A-2-4 A-2-5 A-2-6 A-2-7 A-3-6 A-3 A-6, A-7	COMPRESSIBILITY SLIGHTLY COMPRESSIBLE LIQUID LIMIT LESS THAN	NON-CRYSTALLINE ROCK (NCR)	FIRE TO COARSE GRAIN METAMORPHIC AND NON-COASTAL PLAIN SEDIMENTARY ROCK THAT WOULD YELLD SPT REFUSAL IF TESTED. ROCK TYPE INCLUDES PHYLLITE, SLATE, SANDSTONE, ETC.	COLLUYIUM - ROCK FRAGMENTS MIXED WITH SOIL DEPOSITED BY GRAVITY ON SLOPE OR AT BOTTOM OF SLOPE.
SYMBOL SSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS	MODERATELY COMPRESSIBLE LIQUID LIMIT 31-58 HIGHLY COMPRESSIBLE LIQUID LIMIT GREATER 1	COASTAL PLAIN THAN 58 SEDIMENTARY ROCK	COASTAL PLAIN SEDIMENTS CEMENTED INTO ROCK, BUT MAY NOT YIELD  SPT REFUSAL, ROCK TYPE INCLUDES LIMESTONE, SANDSTONE, CEMENTED	CORE RECOVERY (REC.) - TOTAL LENGTH OF ALL MATERIAL RECOVERED IN THE CORE BARREL DIVIDED BY TOTAL LENGTH OF CORE RUN AND EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE.
X PASSING " 18 58 MX GRANULAR SILT- MUCK, CLAY	PERCENTAGE OF MATERIAL  GRANULAR SILT- CLAY	(CP)	SHELL BEDS, ETC. WEATHERING	DIKE - A TABULAR BODY OF IGNEOUS ROCK THAT CUTS ACROSS THE STRUCTURE OF ADJACENT ROCKS OR CUTS MASSIVE ROCK.
* 48 38 MX56 MX51 MN * 288 15 MX 25 MX68 MX 35 MX35 MX35 MX36 MX36 MX36 MX36 MX36 MX36 MX36 MX36		1 - 16% FRESH ROCK FI	RESH, CRYSTALS BRIGHT, FEW JOINTS MAY SHOW SLIGHT STAINING, ROCK RINGS UNDER IF CRYSTALLINE.	DIP - THE ANGLE AT WHICH A STRATUM OR ANY PLANAR FEATURE IS INCLINED FROM THE HORIZONTAL.
LIDUID LIDUI PLASTIC DEEX 6 MX N.P. 18 MX	MODERATELY ORGANIC 5 - 18% 12 - 28% SOME 2	18 - 28% 28 - 35% 28 - 35% 35% AND ARRYF (V. SLIJ) CRYSTAL	enerally fresh, joints stained, some joints may show thin clay coatings if open, ls on a Broken specimen face shine Brightly. Rock rings under hammer blows if Hystalline mature.	DIP DIRECTION (DIP AZIMUTH) - THE DIRECTION OR BEARING OF THE HORIZONTAL TRACE OF THE LINE OF DIP, MEASURED CLOCKWISE FROM NORTH.
GROUP INDEX 8 8 8 4 MX 8 MX 12 MX 16 MX NO MX MODERATE ORGANIC USIN. TYPES STONE FROS. FINE SILTY OR CLAYEY SILTY CLAYEY ORGANIC	GROUND WATER  WATER LEVEL IN BORE HOLE IMMEDIATELY AFTER DRILLING,	SLIGHT ROCK G	ENERALLY FRESH, JOINTS STAINED AND DISCOLDRATION EXTENDS INTO ROCK UP TO OPEN JOINTS MAY CONTAIN CLAY, IN GRANITOID ROCKS SOME OCCASIONAL FELDSPAR	FAULT - A FRACTURE OR FRACTURE ZONE ALONG WHICH THERE HAS BEEN DISPLACEMENT OF THE SIDES RELATIVE TO ONE ANOTHER PARALLEL TO THE FRACTURE.
OF MAJOR GRAVEL AND SAND GRAVEL AND SAND SOILS SOILS MATTER	STATIC WATER LEVEL AFTER 24 HOURS.	CRYSTAL	LS ARE DULL AND DISCOLORED. CRYSTALLINE ROCKS RING UNDER HANNER BLOWS.  CANT PORTIONS OF ROCK SHOW DISCOLORATION AND WEATHERING EFFECTS. IN	FISSILE - A PROPERTY OF SPLITTING ALONG CLOSELY SPACED PARALLEL PLANES.
GEN. RATING AS A EXCELLENT TO GOOD FAIR TO POOR FAIR TO POOR POOR UNSUITABLE COMPANY.	PERCHED WATER, SATURATED ZONE OR WATER BEARING STRAT	TA (MOD.) GRANITO	IID ROCKS, MOST FELDSPARS ARE DULL AND DISCOLORED, SOME SHOW CLAY, ROCK HAS DUND UNDER HAMMER BLOWS AND SHOWS SIGNIFICANT LOSS OF STRENGTH AS COMPARED	FLOAT - ROCK FRAGMENTS ON SURFACE NEAR THEIR ORIGINAL POSITION AND DISLODGED FROM PARENT NATERIAL,
SUBGRADE P.I. OF A-7-5 ≤ L.L 38 : P.I. OF A-7-6 > L.L 38	SPRING OR SEEPAGE	WITH FA	iesh rock. IX except quartz discolored or stained, in granitoid rocks, all felospars dull	THE STREAM.
CONSISTENCY OR DENSENESS  RANGE OF STANDARD RANGE OF UNCONFINED	MISCELLANEOUS SYMBOLS	SEVERE AND DIS	COLORED AND A MAJORITY SHOW KAOLINIZATION, ROCK SHOWS SEVERE LOSS OF STRENGTH  N BE EXCAVATED WITH A GEOLOGIST'S PICK, ROCK GIVES "CLUNK" SOUND WHEN STRUCK.	FORMATION (FM.) - A MAPPABLE GEOLOGIC UNIT THAT CAN BE RECOGNIZED AND TRACED IN THE FIELD.
PRIMARY SDIL TYPE COMPACTNESS OR CONSISTENCY PENETRATION RESISTENCE COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH ON-VALUE) (TONS/FT?)		SAMPLE IF IEST	<u>ed. Word. O yield spt refusal.</u> CKS except Quartz discolored or Stained. Rock fabric Clear and Evident but reduce	JOINT - FRACTURE IN ROCK ALONG WHICH NO APPRECIABLE MOVEMENT HAS OCCURRED.
GENERALLY VERY LOOSE 4 GRANLAR LOOSE 4 TO 18	SOIL SYMBOL AUGER BORING S-	SELL CAMPLE (SEV.) IN STRE	NOTH TO STRONG SOIL. IN GRANITOID ROCKS ALL FELDSPARS ARE KAOLINIZED TO SOME SOME FRAGMENTS OF STRONG ROCK USUALLY RENAIN.	LEDGE - A SHELF-LIKE RIDGE OR PROJECTION OF ROCK WHOSE THICKNESS IS SMALL COMPARED TO ITS LATERAL EXTENT.
MATERIAL MEDIUM DENSE 10 TO 30 NATE NOTE NOTE NOTE NOTE NOTE NOTE NOTE NO			<u>red, yields spt n values &gt; 180 BPF</u> IX except quartz discolored or stained, rock fabric elements are discernible but	LENS - A BODY OF SOIL OR ROCK THAT THINS OUT IN ONE OR MORE DIRECTIONS.  MOTTLED (MOT.) - IRREGULARLY MARKED WITH SPOTS OF DIFFERENT COLORS, MOTTLING IN
VERY DENSE         >58           VERY SOFT         <2	INFERRED SUIL BUUNDARIES *	SHELBY TUBE IV. SEV.) THE MAS	SS IS EFFECTIVELY REDUCED TO SOIL STATUS, WITH ONLY FRAGMENTS OF STRONG ROCK NG. SAPROLITE IS AN EXAMPLE OF ROCK WEATHERED TO A DEGREE SUCH THAT ONLY MINOR	SOILS USUALLY INDICATES POOR AERATION AND LACK OF GOOD DRAINAGE.  PERCHED WATER - WATER MAINTAINED ABOVE THE NORMAL GROUND WATER LEVEL BY THE PRESENCE OF AN
GENERALLY SOFT 2 TO 4 8.25 TO 8.5 SILT-CLAY MEDIUM STIFF 4 TO 8 6.5 TO 1	INFERRED ROCK LINE A PIEZOMETER RS-	ROCK SAMPLE YESTIGE	S OF THE ORIGINAL ROCK FABRIC REMAIN. IF TESTED YIELDS SPT N VALUES ( 180 BPF	INTERVENING IMPERVIOUS STRATUM.  RESIDUAL SOIL - SOIL FORMED IN PLACE BY THE WEATHERING OF ROCK.
MATERIAL STIFF 8 TO 15 1 TO 2 (CONESIVE) VERY STIFF 15 TO 30 2 TO 4		RECOMPACTED SCATTER	DUCED TO SOIL. ROCK FABRIC NOT DISCENTIBLE, OR DISCENTIBLE ONLY IN SMALL AND ED CONCENTRATIONS. QUARTZ MAY BE PRESENT AS DIKES OR STRINGERS. SAPROLITE IS EXAMPLE.	ROCK QUALITY DESIGNATION (R.C.D.) - A MEASURE OF ROCK QUALITY DESCRIBED BY: TOTAL LENGTH OF
HARD 388 >4  TEXTURE OR GRAIN SIZE	25/825 DIP/DIP DIRECTION OF INSTALLATION CBR ROCK STRUCTURES	- CBR SAMPLE	ROCK HARDNESS	ROCK SEGMENTS EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 4 INCHES DIVIDED BY THE TOTAL LENGTH OF CORE RUN AND EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE,
U.S. STD. SIEVE SIZE 4 18 49 68 298 278	SPT N-VALUE SPT N-VALUE SPT REFUSAL		BE SCRATCHED BY KNIFE OR SHARP PICK, BREAKING OF HAND SPECIMENS REDUIRES IL HARD BLOWS OF THE GEOLOGISTS PICK.	SAPROLITE (SAP.) - RESIDUAL SOIL WHICH RETAINS THE RELIC STRUCTURE OR FABRIC OF THE PARENT ROCK.
CPENING (MM)	ABBREVIATIONS  AR - AUGER REFUSAL MED MEDIUM	TO DET	SCRATCHED BY KNIFE OR PICK ONLY WITH DIFFICULTY, HARD HAMMER BLOWS REQUIRED ACH HAND SPECIMEN.	SILL - AN INTRUSIVE BODY OF IGNEOUS ROCK OF APPROXIMATELY UNIFORM THICKNESS AND RELATIVELY THIN COMPARED WITH ITS LATERAL EXTENT, WHICH HAS BEEN EMPLACED PARALLEL TO THE BEDDING OR SCHISTOSITY OF THE INTRUDED ROCKS
GRAIN MM 385 75 2.0 0.25 8.05 8.005	BT - BORING TERMINATED NM - NOT MEASURED CL CLAY PMT - PRESSUREMETER 1 CPT - CONE PENETRATION TEST SD SAND, SANDY	TEST HARD EXCAVA	: SCRATCHED BY KNIFE OR PICK, GOUGES OR GROOVES TO 8.25 INCHES DEEP CAN BE INTED BY HARD BLOW OF A GEOLOGISTS PICK, HAND SPECIMENS CAN BE DETACHED JERATE BLOWS.	SLICKENSIDE - POLISHED AND STRIATED SURFACE THAT RESULTS FROM FRICTION ALONG A FAULT OR SLIP PLANE.
SIZE IN. 12" 3"  SOIL MOISTURE - CORRELATION OF TERMS  SOIL MOISTURE SCALE   FIELD MOISTURE	CSE COARSE	HARD CAN BE	GROOVED OR GOUGED 6.05 INCHES DEEP BY FIRM PRESSURE OF KNIFE OR PICK POINT.  EXCAVATED IN SMALL CHIPS TO PEICES 1 INCH MAXIMUM SIZE BY MARD BLOWS OF THE OF A GEOLOGISTS PICK.	STANDARD PENETRATION TEST (PENETRATION RESISTANCE) (SPT) - NUMBER OF BLOYS (N OR B.P.F.) OF A 148 LB. HAMMER FALLING 30 INCHES REQUIRED TO PRODUCE A PENETRATION OF 1 FOOT INTO SOIL WITH A 2 INCH OUTSIDE DIAMETER SPLIT SPOON SAMPLER, SPT REFUSAL IS LESS THAN 8.1 FOOT PENETRATION WITH 68 BLOYS.
SOIL MOISTURE SCALE FIELD MOISTURE GUIDE FOR FIELD MOISTURE DESCRIPTION  - SATURATED - USUALLY LIQUID; VERY WET, USUALLY	DPT - DYNAMIC PENETRATION TEST 7 - UNIT WEIGHT 6 - VOID RATIO 7 <sub>d</sub> - DRY UNIT WEIGHT	FROM (	CROVED OR COUGED READILY BY WHIFE OR PICK, CAN BE EXCAVATED IN FRACMENTS CHIPS TO SEVERAL INCHES IN SIZE BY MODERATE BLOWS OF A PICK POINT, SMALL, THIN CAN BE BROKEN BY FINGER PRESSURE.	STRATA CORE RECOVERY (SREC.) - TOTAL LENGTH OF STRATA MATERIAL RECOVERED DIVIDED BY TOTAL LENGTH OF STRATUM AND EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE.
LL LIQUID LIMIT (SAT.) FROM BELOW THE GROUND WATER TABLE	FOSS, - FOSSILIFEROUS W - MOISTURE CONTENT FRAC FRACTURED V, - VERY FRAGS, - FRACMENTS VST - VANE SHEAR TEST	I	CARVED WITH KNIFE, CAN BE EXCAVATED READILY WITH POINT OF PICK, PIECES I INCH E IN THICKNESS CAN BE BROKEN BY FINGER PRESSURE, CAN BE SCRATCHED READILY BY WAIL.	STRATA ROCK QUALITY DESIGNATION (S.R.D.D.) - A HEASURE OF ROCK QUALITY DESCRIBED BY; TOTAL LENGTH OF ROCK SEGMENTS WITHIN A STRATUM EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 4 INCHES DIVIDED BY THE TOTAL LENGTH OF STRATA AND EXPRESSED AS A PERCENTAGE.
RANGE < - WET - (W) SEMISOLID: REQUIRES DRYING TO ATTAIN OPTIMUM MOISTURE	EQUIPMENT USED ON SUBJECT PROJECT		RE SPACING BEDDING SPACING TERM THICKNESS	TOPSDIL (T.S.) - SURFACE SOILS USUALLY CONTAINING ORGANIC MATTER.
OM OPTIMUM MOISTURE - MOIST - (M) SOLID; AT OR NEAR OPTIMUM MOISTURE	DRILL UNITS: ADVANCING TOOLS: HAMMER	TOMATIC W MANUAL VERY WIDE	MORE THAN 18 FEET VERY THICKLY BEDOED > 4 FEET	BENCH MARK: BM *2: -L- STA, 15+51,88, 46,81' RT
SL SHRINKAGE LIMIT	MOBILE B- CLAY BITS	MODERATELY CLOSE	1 TO 3 FEET THINLY BEDDED 8.16 - 1.5 FEET	ELEVATION: 625.43'
- DRY - (D) REQUIRES ADDITIONAL WATER TO ATTAIN OPTIMUM MOISTURE	BK-51 S* CONTINUOUS FLIGHT AUGER CORE SI	VEDY CLOSE	E.16 TO 1 FEET LESS THAN 8.16 FEET THICKLY LAMINATED R.888 - 8.83 FEET THINLY LAMINATED R.888 - 8.83 FEET	NOTES:
PLASTICITY	X CME-45 HARD FACED FINGER BITS X-N_	n —	INDURATION  S, INDURATION IS THE HARDENING OF THE MATERIAL BY CEMENTING, HEAT, PRESSURE, ETC.	
PLASTICITY INDEX (P) DRY STRENGTH NONPLASTIC 8-5 VERY LOW	TUNGCARBIDE INSERTS X -H_	FUR SEUIMENTANT MUCK	RUBBING WITH FINGER FREES NUMEROUS GRAINS!	
LOW PLASTICITY 6-15 SLIGHT MED. PLASTICITY 16-25 MEDIUM	CASING W/ ADVANCER HAND TO	FOOLS:	GENTLE BLOW BY HAMMER DISINTEGRATES SAMPLE.  UNDERSTED. GRAINS CAN BE SEPARATED FROM SAMPLE WITH STEEL PROBE;	
HIGH PLASTICITY 26 OR MORE HIGH COLOR		AND AUGER	BREAKS EASILY WHEN HIT WITH HAMMER	
DESCRIPTIONS MAY INCLUDE COLOR OR COLOR COMBINATIONS (TAN, RED, YEL-BRN, BLUE-GRAY)	X CORE BIT	COUNDING ROD INDURATED	GRAINS ARE DIFFICULT TO SEPARATE WITH STEEL PROBE; DIFFICULT TO BREAK WITH HAMMER.	
MODIFIERS SUCH AS LIGHT, DARK, STREAKED, ETC. ARE USED TO DESCRIBE APPEARANCE.		THEREXTREMELY I	NDURATED SHARP HAMMER BLOWS REQUIRED TO BREAK SAMPLE; SAMPLE BREAKS ACROSS GRAINS.	
				REVISED 09/15/00